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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



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YOU WON'T BELIEVE
WHO KILLS SPIDER-MAN
THIS ISSUE!

**LEAD...FOLLOW...OR
GET OUT OF THE WAY!**



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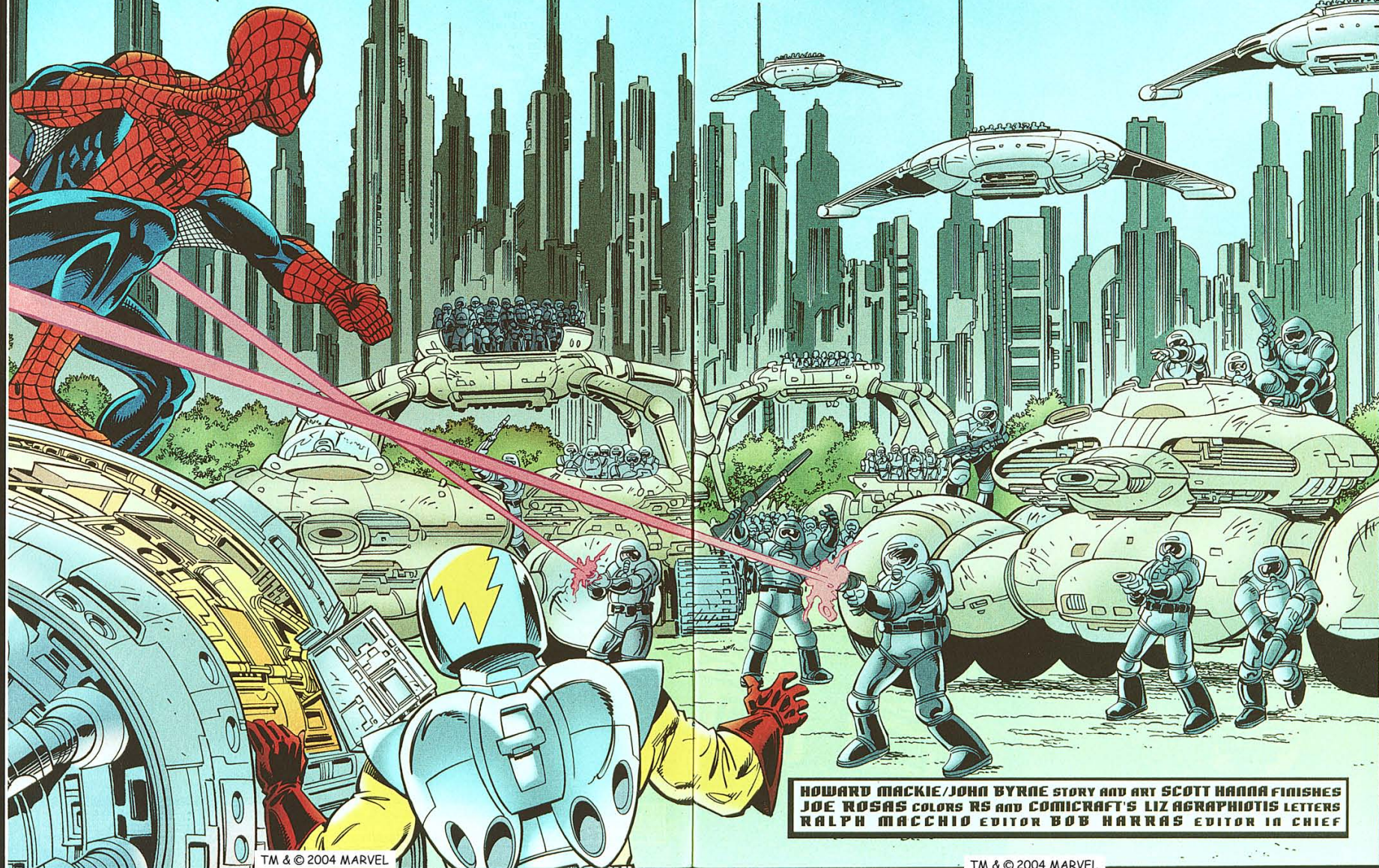


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STAN LEE PRESENTS
THE PERFECT WORLD PART 2

...SURE!
NO
PROBLEM,
BUDDY.

THE
**MAN BEHIND
THE
CURTAIN!**



HOWARD MACKIE/JOHN BYRNE STORY AND ART SCOTT HANNA FINISHES
JOE ROSAS COLORS RS AND COMICRAFT'S LIZ AGRAPHOTIS LETTERS
RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF



YOU KNOW, AFTER WE SAVE THE WORLD... AGAIN... YOU AND I ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SIT DOWN AND TALK ABOUT THIS EQUAL PARTNERSHIP THING!

I'M THINKING I COULD CUT THE WIRES JUST AS EASILY AS YOU COULD!

I'M MAKING A MENTAL NOTE OF THAT RIGHT NOW.
NEXT TIME SPIDER-MAN DISARMS THE BOMB!

RED... BLUE?

RED... BLUE?
RED... BLUE?

NOT THAT THIS PART ISN'T FUN AND ALL, BUT...
...SOMETIMES I'D LIKE TO BE TREATED AS SOMETHING MORE THAN A MASK AND WEB-FLUID!



YOU WERE RIGHT, SPIDEY... YOU COULD HAVE HANDLED THIS!

GEE... THANKS, THOMPSON! SO, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN AT LEAST HANDLE THE PERPETRATORS OF THIS MAYHEM BEFORE THEY GET AWAY?

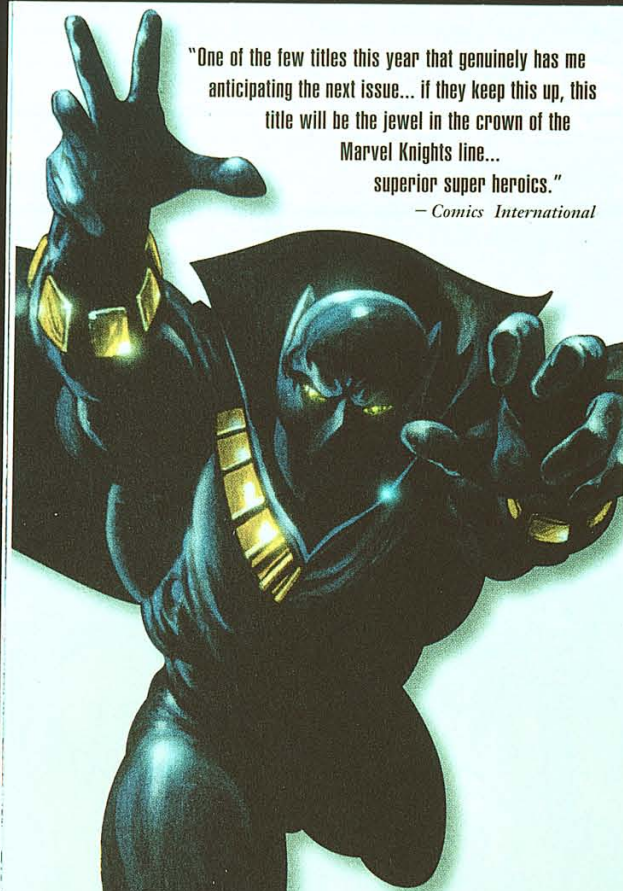
ALREADY ON IT, BUDDY!!

FISK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WORKING WITH A NEO-FASCIST LIKE THE RED SKULL?

WHAT... IS HE GIVING YOU HAIR STYLING TIPS?

WELL, YOU TWO SHOULD HAVE PLENTY OF TIME...

...TO PLOT YOUR NEXT WORLD TAKEOVER WHILE YOU SHARE A JAIL CELL!



"One of the few titles this year that genuinely has me anticipating the next issue... if they keep this up, this title will be the jewel in the crown of the Marvel Knights line... superior super heroics."

-Comics International

BLACK PANTHER

Monthly From Marvel Knights



WWW.MARVEL.COM

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- NABISCO OREO STACKING CONTEST**
- 1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.** Open only to legal residents of the 50 states in the United States and the District of Columbia, who are 12 years of age or younger at the time of entry. Employees of Nabisco Biscuit Company, Nabisco, Inc., The Walt Disney Co., participating retail stores, their respective affiliates, subsidiaries, and agencies, their immediate families, and members of the same household of such employees are not eligible to enter or win.
 - 2. ENTRY.** Between May 23, 1999 and August 15, 1999, compete in a "Local Contest" at a participating retail store selling Nabisco Oreo cookies. To compete, go to the specially designated "contest table," complete an official entry form and then build a stack of Oreo cookies under the supervision of the independent judging agency. One entry that is one opportunity to compete at a participating retail store per person. Contestants will have 30 seconds to stack as many Oreo cookies as possible to build a self-standing, single tower. In constructing the tower, cookies must not be broken or tampered with in any way, and contestants must stack cookies independently, without assistance of any kind. In the sole determination of the independent judging agency, the contestant who stacks the most cookies that remain standing for 3 seconds after the 30-second period ends qualifies as a Semifinalist.
 - 3. CONTEST STRUCTURE.** For all levels of the Contest, contestants will participate in two age groups (7 years of age or younger; 8 through 12 years of age). There will be 1 "Local Contest" per participating retail store. In each "Local Contest," 2 contestants will qualify as Semifinalists (1 per age group). For schedule information for "Local Contests," see your local participating retailer, call 1-800-ONLY-OREO or visit our website at WWW.OREO.COM. From all participating retail stores, Semifinalists' names/birthdates (and birth times) and the height of each Semifinalist's stack will be forwarded to another independent judging organization. On or about October 20, 1999, this independent judging organization will rank the Semifinalists, determining the 10 Semifinalists in each age group with the highest stacks; these 20 Semifinalists will qualify as Finalists, and will each receive a Finalist Prize in addition to the Semifinalist Prize. To determine the Grand Prize winners, Finalists will compete in the "National Stacking Final" on or about November 8, 1999 in Orlando, Florida. In the sole determination of the independent judging agency supervising the "National Stacking Final," the Finalist in each age group who creates the highest stack in the "National Stacking Final" will win a Grand Prize (in addition to the Finalist Prize and the Semifinalist Prize).
 - 4. PRIZES.** Grand Prize (2, 1 per age group): U.S. Series EE Savings Bond worth \$20,000 at maturity; 1 year supply of Oreo cookies (22 packages); 3-day/2-night trip for 2 to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, on dates selected by Sponsor between December 1, 1999 and March 1, 2000 to appear in a walk-on role on Disney's "Honey, I Shrank The Kids: The TV Show." Trip consists of round-trip coach air transportation between major commercial airport nearest winner's residence and Calgary, ground transfers between Calgary airport and hotel; 2 nights' standard hotel accommodations (double occupancy). Approximate Retail Value: \$14,100. Each Finalist Prize (20, 10 per age group): 3-day/2-night trip for 2 to Orlando, Florida (November 8, 1999 to November 9, 1999), where winner will participate in the "National Stacking Final." Trip consists of round-trip coach air transportation between major commercial airport nearest winner's residence and Orlando, ground transfers between Orlando airport and hotel; 2 nights' standard hotel accommodations (double occupancy). 2 DisneyQuest passes for 2 days; 2 Walt Disney World 5-day hopper passports; and \$300 spending money. Approximate Retail Value: \$2,522 each. Semifinalist Prize (approximately 30,000, but actual number is determined by number of participating retail stores; 1 winner per age group per store): Oreo Stacking Game. Approximate Retail Value: \$4.95 each. For Grand/Finalist Prizes: (a) winner must be accompanied by parent/legal guardian on all prize travel; (b) winner and parent/legal guardian must travel together; (c) all unspecified expenses are winner's sole responsibility; (d) prize trip must be taken on indicated dates. For Grand Prize, if winner is unavailable on stated dates, prize will be forfeited; for Finalist Prize, if winner is unavailable on stated dates, prize will be forfeited, with an alternate Finalist selected. For Grand Prize, winner is solely responsible for obtaining any necessary travel documents, and, walk-on role is subject to availability and other restrictions. No prize transfer. No prize substitution or cash equivalent of prize except at sole discretion of Sponsor due to prize unavailability for any reason, and only then for prize of comparable value. Prizes may be awarded to parent/legal guardian on winner's behalf. All taxes on prizes are the sole responsibility of winners.
 - 5. CONDITIONS.** Void where prohibited by law. Subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. All entries submitted become the sole property of Sponsor and will not be returned. Sponsor and its agencies are not responsible for incomplete, illegible, lost, misdirected, damaged, destroyed, delayed or late entries. Sponsor and its agencies are not responsible for submissions from participating retail stores that are late, lost, misdirected, damaged, destroyed, delayed, postage due or contain errors. In the event of ties in determining Semifinalists/Finalists, the winner will be the youngest contestant as determined by time and date of birth. In the event of ties in the "National Stacking Final," additional rounds of the stacking competition will be conducted until one winner is determined for each age group. Semifinalist winners will be announced at the conclusion of each "Local Contest," but no later than August 15, 1999. Semifinalist winners will be notified with prizes awarded at the retail store, if not present, winner will be notified by phone and must return to the store at a later time to collect the prize. Winners of Finalist Prizes will be notified by mail or phone no later than October 26, 1999. Grand Prize winners will be announced at the "National Stacking Final" and will receive confirmation by mail. For Grand and Finalist Prizes, parent/legal guardians of winners will be required to execute before a Notary Public an affidavit of eligibility, liability release and a publicity release where legal on the winner's behalf to be returned within 10 days of notification. Guests of Grand and Finalist Prize winners must execute and return a liability release and a publicity release (where legal, prior to issuance of travel documents). For Grand Prize, noncompliance with these requirements may result in prize forfeiture. For Finalist Prize, noncompliance may result in prize forfeiture, with an alternate Finalist selected. By participating, contestants agree to abide by these official rules and the decisions of all judges, which are final and binding in all respects. Sponsor is not responsible for misprints or promotional materials or errors in local stacking events. Sponsor reserves the right to cancel local stacking events or disqualify contestants in the event of noncompliance with these official rules. Where legal, acceptance of prizes constitutes permission of winner's parent/legal guardian to use winner's name, likeness and biographical information for all advertising/publicity purposes, and any and all rights to said use, without further compensation. Parent/legal guardian of contestant agrees that Nabisco Biscuit Company, Nabisco, Inc., The Walt Disney Co., participating retail stores, and their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, and their respective employees, officers, directors and agencies will have no liability whatsoever for any injuries, losses or damages of any kind caused by contestant's participation in the contest, or resulting from contestant's acceptance, possession, use/misuse of prizes.
 - 6. WINNERS LIST.** For a list of major prize winners, send a self-addressed stamped envelope before November 10, 1999 to: Attn: Oreo Stacking Winner's List, Nabisco Marketing, 9401 73rd Avenue N., # 400, Brooklyn Park, MN 55420.

Sponsored by Nabisco Biscuit Company, 100 DeForest Avenue, East Hanover, NJ 07936-1911



Everyone's excited by the return of the Oreo Stacking Contest.

Stack 'em high and you could snag \$20,000, a trip to Orlando and a role on TV!

Disney
HONEY, I SHRUNK THE KIDS
THE TV SHOW
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS
© Disney

Tongues everywhere are wagging: this year's Oreo Stacking Contest is bigger than ever. Be the top Oreo stacker and you'll appear on Disney's "Honey, I Shrank The Kids: The TV Show," go to the one-and-only Disney's "Honey, I Shrank The Kids" in Orlando, and snag a \$20,000 savings bond. Lots of other sweet prizes, too. For participating stores, call **1-800-ONLY-OREO** or click www.oreo.com. And get stacking.



No purchase necessary. Open to legal U.S. residents 12 years old or younger at time of entry. Contest ends 8/15/99. See opposite page for a summary of official rules. © 1999 Nabisco, Inc.

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"THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING MORE AND MORE INTERESTING, BUT I AM NO CLOSER TO THE ANSWERS I SEEK."

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ONCE AGAIN...

...IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOU THE HEROES OF THE HOUR... FLASH THOMPSON AND SPIDER-MAN!



MARY JANE! GWEN! SMILE! THE PRESS IS OUT IN FULL-FORCE TODAY!

THE REST OF THE WORLD LOVES YOU ALMOST AS MUCH AS WE DO, FLASH!

YOU SHOULD ACCEPT THE NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT, HONEY. THIS COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!



NO! THIS ISN'T RIGHT.

SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG WITH ALL THIS!

PETER? PETER PARKER? I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN FOREVER! NOW WHY DON'T YOU SETTLE DOWN AND TELL ME WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU.



YOU! SPIDER-MAN! ALL OF IT!

LOOK! I'VE DONE THE RESEARCH! IT'S SOME SORT OF SPACE-TIME ANOMALY, OR... OR... IT'S JUST ALL WRONG!



DON'T WORRY, MR. THOMPSON, WE'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL.

CALM DOWN, BUDDY. EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE JUST FINE.



I'LL HANDLE THIS OFFICERS.

PETER, I WANT YOU TO TAKE A BREATH AND TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE DISCOVERED.

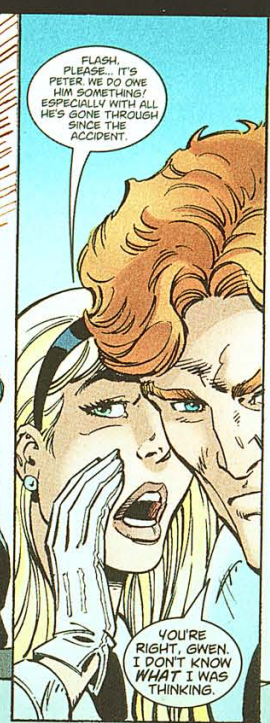
NICE AND SLOW, SO THAT EVEN A FORMER JOCK LIKE ME CAN UNDERSTAND, OKAY?



DON'T HUMOR ME, FLASH! I'M NOT SOME CRAZED IMBECILE!

JUST LOOK AT THESE PAPERS!

IT'S WRONG! ALL WRONG!



FLASH, PLEASE... IT'S PETER. WE DO OWE HIM SOMETHING! ESPECIALLY WITH ALL HE'S GONE THROUGH SINCE THE ACCIDENT.

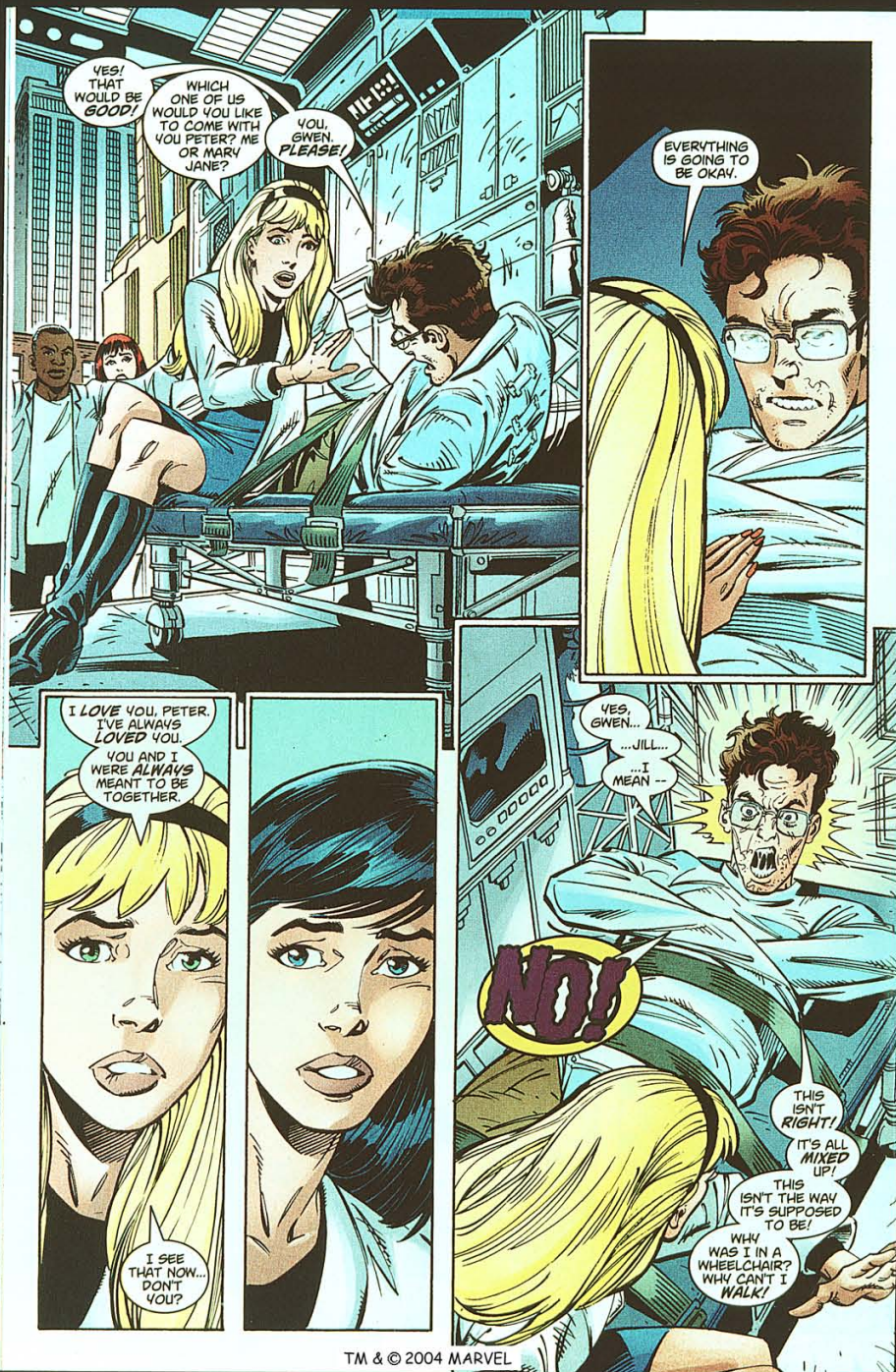
YOU'RE RIGHT, GWEN. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING.



MARY JANE, MAYBE ONE OF US SHOULD GO WITH HIM. WE CAN CALL HIS AUNT AND UNCLE.

WOULD YOU LIKE THAT, PETER?

YOU TRIED, BUDDY.



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The Cooper's house has a mind of its own.

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SMART HOUSE

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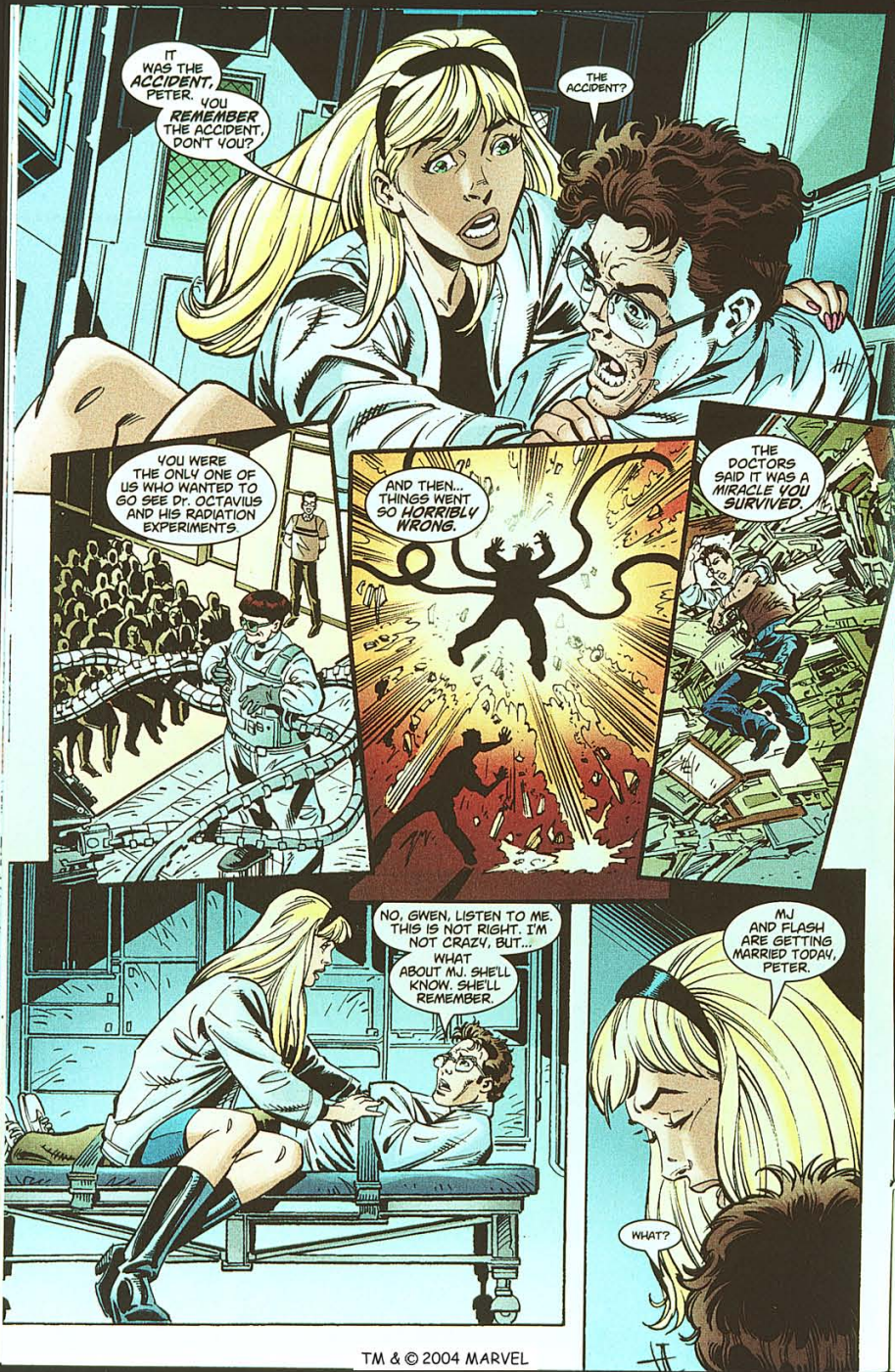
World Television Premiere

Saturday, June 26th 7pm/6c

Disney CHANNEL

www.disneychannel.com part of GO Network © Disney

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"NOW THINGS ARE GETTING FASCINATING. I FEEL I AM CLOSE TO AN ANSWER."

"WILL YOU LOOK AT THIS... THE MIGHTY FLASH THOMPSON CAN STARE DOWN GALACTUS HIMSELF, BUT A LITTLE WEDDING AND..."



"IT'S NOT THAT, SPIDEY!"

"I HOPE NOT. YOU ARE MARRING THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD!"

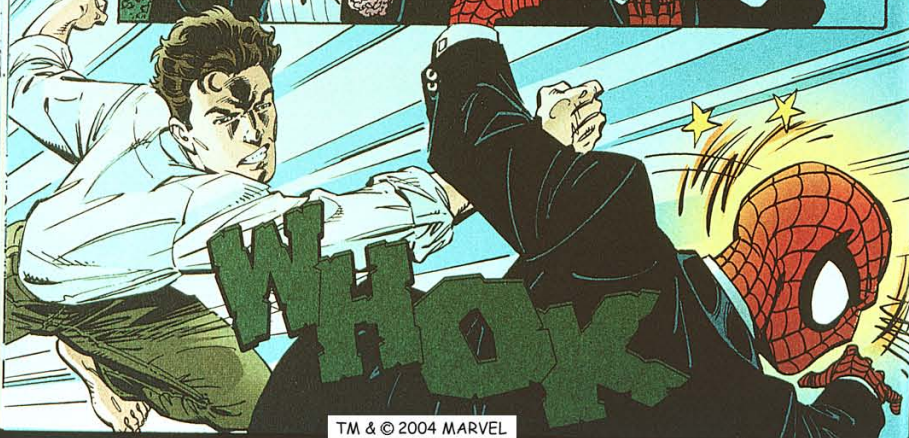


"I KNOW, BUT SOME OF THE STUFF THAT PARKER SAID..."



"COME ON, FLASH, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET CRAZY PARKER GET TO YOU? YOU'RE DUE OUT THERE IN TEN MINUTES."

"I'M GOING TO GO IN AND CHECK OUT THE CROWD. MAYBE THAT'LL CLEAR MY HEAD."



WHACK



"OUT COLD! NOW TO SEE WHO IT IS UNDERNEATH THE MASK!"

"OF COURSE! I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED!"

"WHO ELSE COULD PULL OFF A STUNT LIKE THIS!"

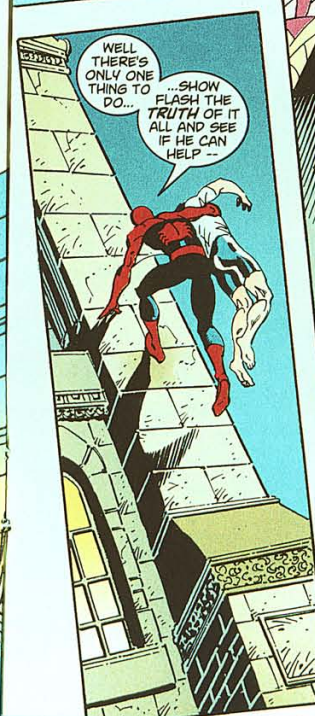
"BUT HE'S NEVER BEEN THIS POWERFUL!"



"AND IF HE'S UNCONSCIOUS..."

"WHY IS THE ILLUSION STILL GOING ON?"

"HMMM? MUST BE TIED IN TO FLASH SOMEHOW."



"WELL THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO..."

"...SHOW FLASH THE TRUTH OF IT ALL AND SEE IF HE CAN HELP --"



"HEY, SPIDEY! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN? HOPE YOU DIDN'T LOSE THE RINGS!"



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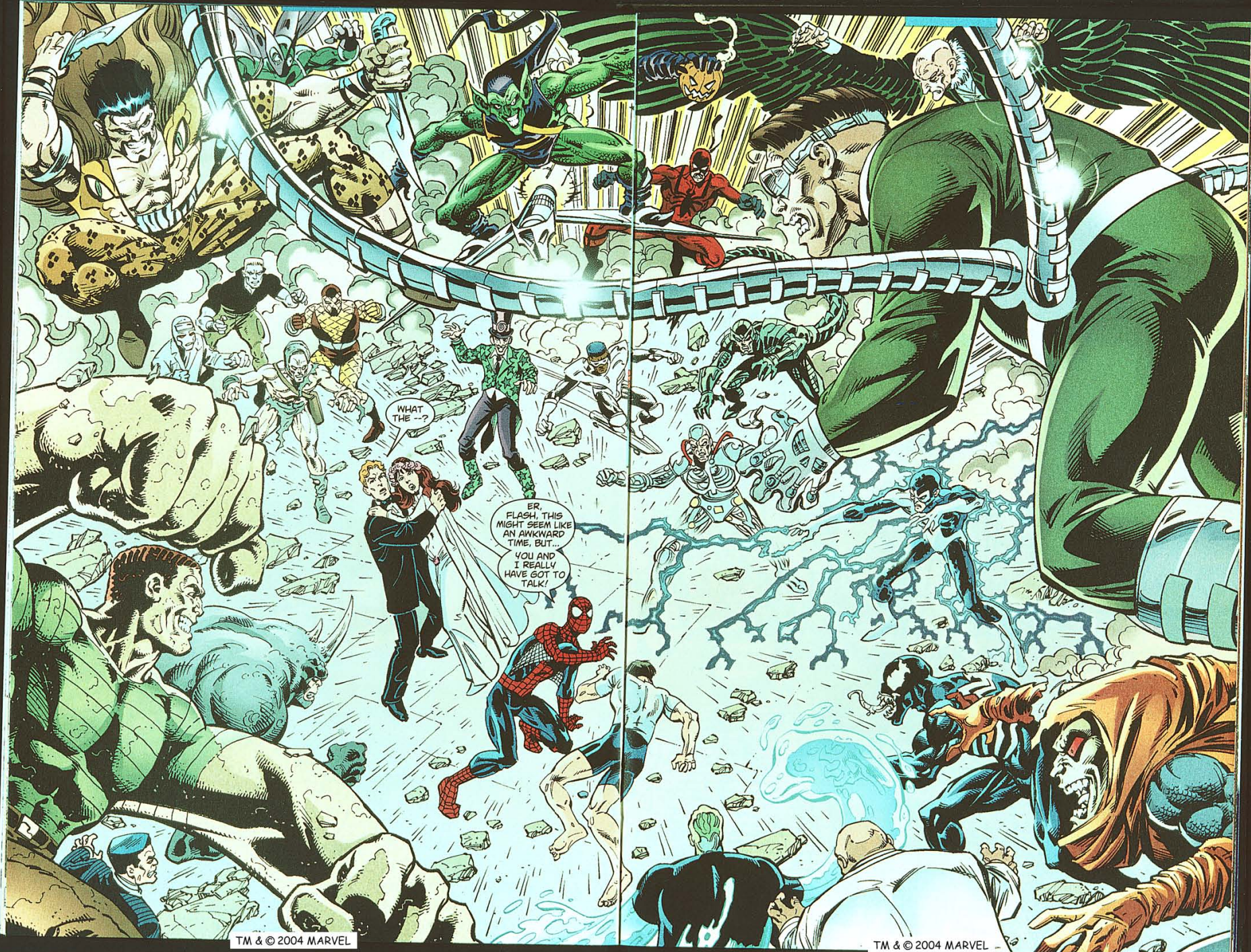


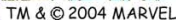
HULK SAYS: DRINK MILK! MILK IS GOOD. MILK HAS VITAMINS AND MINERALS. MORE THAN PUNY SPORT DRINKS! AND MILK HAS PROTEIN FOR MUSCLES. SO DRINK MILK OR HULK WILL GET ANGRY. AND YOU WON'T LIKE HULK WHEN HULK IS ANGRY.

got milk?

© 1999 NATIONAL FLUID MILK PROCESSOR PROMOTION BOARD

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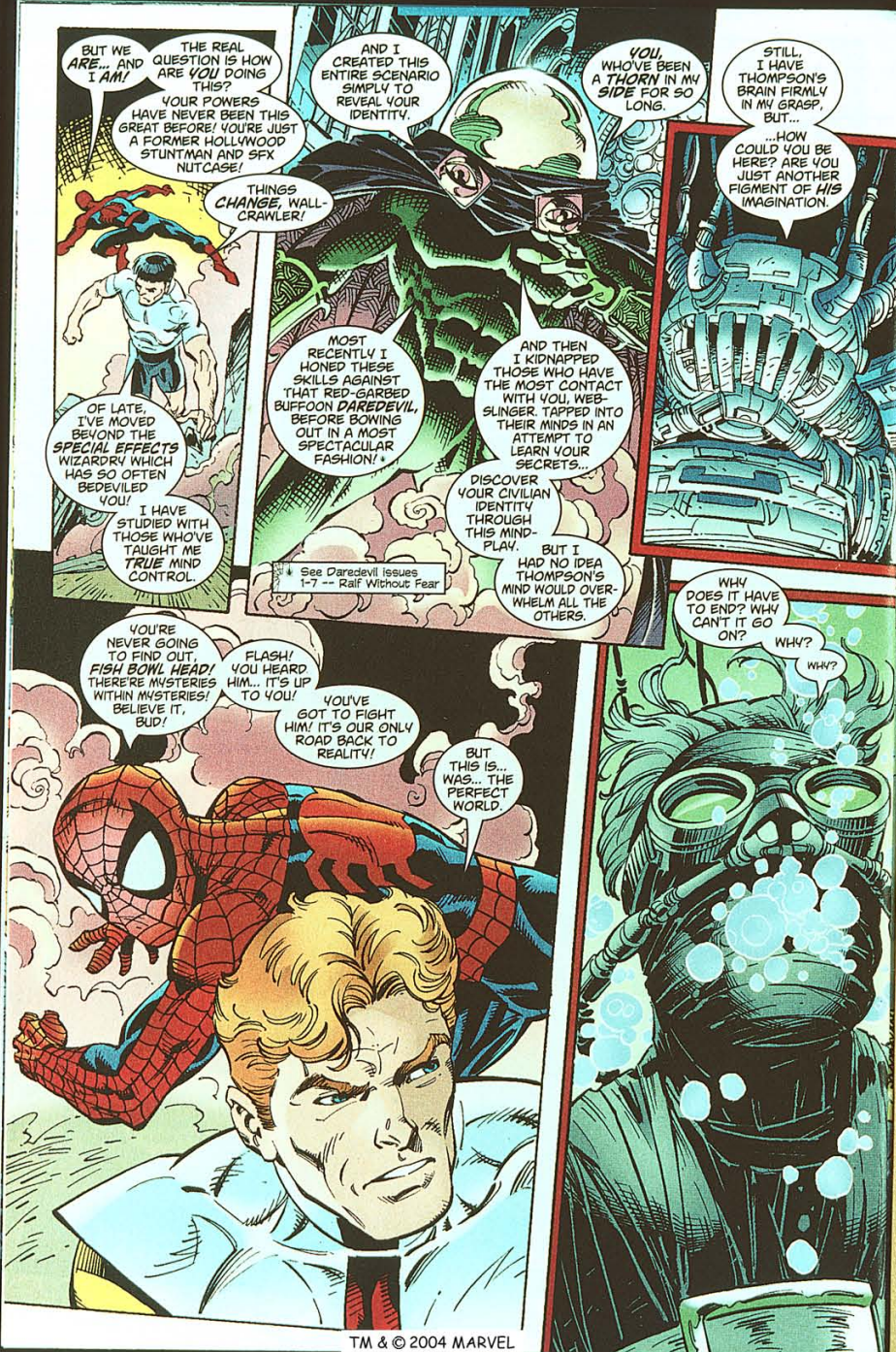
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Send us the greatest Eggo™ creation and we'll send you to Florida with \$10,000.



Enter the Extra Eggstraordinary Eggo Waffles Contest. Now that Eggo® has more waffles in every box, people are creating new ways to eat them. We'd like to see yours. Send us a description (may include a photo or drawing on a 3" x 5" card) of your favorite creation and you could win a trip for four to Orlando plus \$10,000. There are tons of other prizes too. So rev up your toaster. You could pop up a winner.

Entrants must be between 8-18 years old by 12/31/09. To enter, print name, address and description of your Eggo creation (must be edible) on a 3"x5" card. Photo or drawing may be submitted along with description. Entry idea must be edible. Mail complete entry to: "Extra Eggstraordinary Kellogg's Eggo Waffle Contest," P.O. Box 185514, Battle Creek, MI, 49016-5514. Entries must be postmarked by 12/31/09. Contest open to all residents of the contiguous U.S. Void where prohibited. (2) Grand Prize: \$10,000 cash plus First Prize (ARV=\$14,900). (4) First Prize: Trip for four persons to Orlando, Florida. (ARV=\$4,800). All Grand Prize and First Prize trips consist of round trip, coach air transportation from major airport nearest winner's residence, 7 days/6 nights one room hotel accommodations, rental car for 7 days and \$750 spending cash. Trips must be taken by 8/30/10. (250) Second Prize: One-year supply of Kellogg's Eggo Waffles (52 free product coupons good on any 10-count variety) plus Third Prize (ARV=\$135). (1000) Third Prize: Kellogg's Eggo Watch (ARV=\$20.00). Limit one prize per person, household or family. Odds of winning determined by number of eligible entries received. See package for complete set of rules, or write address above, or see Web site: www.eggowaffles.com. Entries judged on creativity (40%), taste (40%) and originality (20%).

Kellogg's
Eggo
waffles

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

AVAILABLE JUNE 16TH

A-NEXT

Having journeyed to an alternate reality where they are forced to battle distorted version of the original AVENGERS, the new generation of the Earth's Mightiest Heroes join with CAPTAIN AMERICA! By TOM DEFALCO and RON FRENZ!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Revealed: The secrets of CAPTAIN AMERICA's shield! In this first installment of a two-part tale, the answers will be laid bare, as the super soldier must race around the globe in pursuit of something he can't even see! By MARK WAID and ANDY KUBERT!

DAREDEVIL

MATT MURDOCK gets slapped upside the head by Cupid as a new romantic interest enters his still-fragile life. But is this the lady of his dreams or a nightmare waiting to happen? By DAVID MACK, JOE QUESADA and JIMMY PALMIOTTI!

HULK

With blood on his hands, THE HULK is out of control and more dangerous than he's ever been before! By JOHN BYRNE and RON GARNEY!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN

SPIDER-MAN vs. BULLSEYE - 'nuff said! Oh, you want more info? OK, it looks like the frightening phone calls that have plagued the Parker household reach a climax in this issue! By HOWARD MACKIE and JOHN ROMITA JR.!

THUNDERBOLTS

The THUNDERBOLTS and ARCHANGEL have been conquered by GRAVITRON, who intends to have them executed as insurgents to his new Sky Nation! By KURT BUSIEK and MARK BAGLEY!

WOLVERINE/PUNISHER: REVELATION

As a mysterious illness continues to spread across Manhattan, WOLVERINE and PUNISHER uncover its evil origins. Unfortunately, they're a little tied up fighting the battle droids that were designed to stop the MORLOCK called REVELATION! By CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN, TOM SNIEGOSKI, PAT & ALVIN LEE!

X-MAN

Following the events of last issue, NATE, SCOTT SUMMERS and JEAN GREY travel to a remote mountaintop to investigate a breach from the Age of Apocalypse! By TERRY KAVANAGH and LUKE ROSS!

X-MEN

NIGHTCRAWLER, COLOSSUS, and SHADOWCAT have infiltrated the S.H.I.E.L.D. Helicarrier - which has been hijacked by someone or something using DOUGLOCK and the techno-organic virus to control the entire crew! By ALAN DAVIS and ANDREW ROBINSON!

#11

#20

#10

#5

#8

#29

#34

#54

#91

Hi, Heroes! I heard a funny line recently and what's the good of hearing something funny if you can't share it with your friends? So here it is, in its entirety: "If the 'blackbox' flight recorder is never damaged when a plane crashes, then why don't they build the whole plane out of that stuff? Something to think about, huh? Reminds me of something my dad, who was a real old-beat thinker, used to say, 'Why don't they attach a huge parachute to the top of every plane? Then, if the plane has engine trouble, the pilot can just activate the 'chute and the plane will float to the ground.' Just wantcha to know I'm thinking all the time!"

Speaking of thinking, what d'ya think of this query from Noel Coleman of Murray, UT?

"Since Wolverine's healing factor grows his hair fast, how often does he have to shave or get haircuts?"

Maybe I missed something, Noel, but I don't remember reading that Wolverine's hair grows fast. I figure his healing factor only applies to things that have to heal, like broken bones or wounds. Of course, maybe if someone ever wounded his hair or if he fractured his sideburns then I guess he'd heal in a flash. But since you deserve a serious answer to a serious question, Wolvie gets a haircut twice a month on the 1st and 15th. And there's this cute little manicurist-- but that's another story.

Seems to me the questions get harder and harder. Here's one from Dan Summerfield, of Dresbach, MN...

"What exactly are Spider-Man's eyepieces made of?"

I was tempted to say "Snips and snails and puppy dogs' tails" but you'd think I was just being frivolous. Actually, Dan, this is one of the rare times when I have to fail a True Believer!



CONVENTION FEVER STRIKES MIGHTY MARVEL!

Wizard Con '99 in Chicago and world-famous San Diego Comic Con are nearly upon us! If you plan on attending, you'll want to know which Marvel Pros to rub elbows with! But who can you count on to give up the scoop? Look no further than Marvel.com's favorite leak, YOUR MAN @MARVEL!

www.Marvel.com/yourman



You see, due to the fact that this is the most widely read column in all of comic bookdom, there's no telling how many villains and super villains may be reading these lines right now. If I were to reveal the secret formula behind Spidey's eyepieces, there's always the chance that some public enemy would duplicate his eyepieces and turn himself into a master criminal. I know that a brand new No-Prize Laureate like you would never want that to happen, right?

Matt Welly of Thornmont, IN asks a question I keep hearing over and over...

"I recently learned about your new company, Stan Lee Media. Does that mean you're resigning from Marvel? I sure hope not."

Set thy fears to rest, Bunky. Nothing short of an H-bomb could tear me from the company I love. I'm just setting up my own website, in my spare time, for the fun of it. Come and visit when we officially open in August, but no matter what-- Marvel Rules!

Our address rules, too. Soapbox, Marvel Comics, 387 Park Ave. South, NY NY 10016 or stanzanz@aol.com. So, till someone tells me what "tammam shum" means, and I'll leave you with the greatest words in all of comicdom: "Make Mine Marvel!"

Excelsior!



Stan Lee

This week's chat schedule!

July 1 9:30pmET EARTH'S MIGHTIEST CHAT with writer KURT BUSIEK & editor TOM BREVOORT!

July 5 9:00pmET The OFFICIAL OVERPOWER CHAT!

July 5 10:00pmET TAKE CARE OF MY LIGHT WORK! The Marvel Assistants Chat!

July 6 8:00pmET X-FORCE Writer -- JOHN FRANCIS MOORE!

AOL Keyword: Marvel

All chat schedules subject to change/cancellation.

BULLPEN BITS

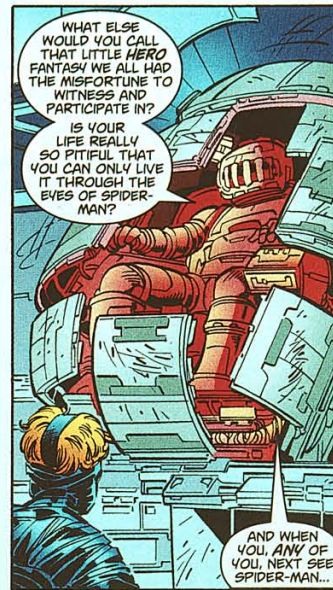


BY CHRIS GIARRUSSO

Design by Richard Starkings and COMICRAFT/WE

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- ☐ AVE Avengers
- ☐ CAM Captain America
- ☐ DDV Daredevil
- ☐ FAN Fantastic Four
- ☐ INC The Hulk
- ☐ IRM Iron Man
- ☐ THO Thor
- ☐ BLT Thunderbolts

THE X-MEN

- ☐ CAB Cable
- ☐ DDP Deadpool
- ☐ GAM Gambit
- ☐ GEN Generation X
- ☐ XME Uncanny X-Men
- ☐ WOL Wolverine
- ☐ XFO X-Force
- ☐ MAN X-Man
- ☐ MEN X-Men

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THE SPIDER'S WEB

MATT HICKS
ASSISTANT
EDITOR

RALPH
MACCHIO
EDITOR

BOB
HARRAS
CHIEF



Dear Spider's Web,

I am extremely pleased with the direction that AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN are taking. In a way, the storyline picks up where the previous Spider-Man titles left off, but doesn't seem to be merely a continuation because the freshness, action and intrigue that is Spider-Man grab the reader right away. The staff at Marvel is doing (and continue to do) a wonderful job.

I was thrilled to see the Fantastic Four in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4, which reminded me of when Spidey first encountered the FF way back in ASM Vol 1, #1, and in that story's retelling in SPIDER-MAN: CHAPTER ONE #2. In all the times Spidey has teamed up with the Fantastic Four, I've never seen an instance where Reed Richards learns of Spidey's scientific capabilities. Would you consider this in a future story? I think it would be interesting to see Reed's reaction, as well as the prospect of seeing Reed and Spidey together in the lab.

Thank you for making Spider-Man enjoyable and keep up the good work!

Christopher M. Carter
Brooklyn, NY

Thanks for writing, Christopher. Of course Reed is privy to Spidey's grasp of all things scientific, and the two have even shared a lab on a couple of occasions. Notably, Reed helped Peter discover Venom's weakness for sonic waves.

Dear Websters,

I waited to write after Spider-Man's relaunch because I wanted to see how long Howard Mackie was going to take to put Peter back where he belonged—in the costume. I'm even more stumped this time than I was during the clone saga as to why he would take Peter out of it to begin with, but I suppose that's neither here nor there now.

The important thing in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4 is that he's with the Torch, whom I consider to be Spider-Man's best friend. At this point in their lives, I think it's nonsense that he hasn't told Johnny who he is. It's not as if Johnny is a security risk. Sure, his secret identity is important to protect him and his loved ones. But that doesn't apply here. These two, even more than Daredevil and Spidey, or Nate Grey and Spidey, should be beyond identities. And I'd love to see the look on Johnny's face when he finds out who Spider-Man is. He's met Peter before casually, and he would recognize him as the husband of Mary Jane Watson-Parker, on whom he seems to have somewhat of a crush.

I'm ambivalent about the Sandman returning to crime, but the Trapster and the Wizard always make a good read. Though I don't like abrupt character changes, I understand that long-lived stories are

cyclical. If Mr. Mackie wants Sandman to rediscover his roots as a villain with the Frightful Four, I'll go along with it. I do agree with de-aging Peter, even to the point of making him somehow single again. He led a lot more exciting private life then. I like MJ, but...again, there's that cyclical nature. Ten years in a real marriage is a good thing. Ten years in a comic book marriage can be...ennui.

Lastly, I really like Peter being involved with science, although I don't know how he can hold down a steady job for long. But he should, at the very least, create a few gadgets to use as Spider-Man. It's possible the same people will object to new armaments who objected to the new costume (the clone costume, currently sported by Spider-Girl in MC2), but it makes no logical sense. Spider-Man would use his knowledge to give himself whatever edge he can in fights with super-villains who are trying to kill him.

Sally Cutler
Imlay City, MI

We always enjoy receiving your well thought-out letters, Sally. You were indeed not the only one to raise an eyebrow at Sandy's return to the "dark side," and this continues to be one of our hot-button topics. Some felt that Flint Marko's switching of allegiances was too quick and lacked proper motivation, while others were simply pleased to have another member of Spidey's Rogue's Gallery back in action. Your rather Zen-like approach to the issue, however, was unique.

We're not sure we agree on the matter of Spidey revealing his identity to Johnny, though. While these two have shared much as friends, a good deal of that relationship is based on their enduring, if friendly, rivalry. Spidey gets to have one up on Johnny, whose identity is known to the world, while Johnny has had to take a leap of faith to trust his web-slinging friend. A little childish? Perhaps. But then again, Peter has always seemed to relish using Torchie as an outlet for some of his more immature impulses. Just a thought.

Dear Spider's Web,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4 was the best issue of the relaunch so far. I loved seeing the Sandman as a bad guy again. He's so good at being bad! I think you can improve on the Trapster's costume a bit, though. I loved the scene where Torch was drooling over MJ!

Most of my reservations about the current situation of the Spider-titles are summed up in Kevin Barron's letter in this issue, especially in regards to Aunt May. I also think MJ needs better work. To me, she has never been as interesting as Peter. Try to balance the scales a bit. I like how you are making her a star super model, but really play up that angle. Models live pretty exciting

lives. I also have never liked any of Mary Jane's friends. I would rather see her become friends with Millie the Model or Patsy Walker. Whatever you do, try to give her some cool new model friends and interesting subplots.

Brendan Walsh
Chicago, IL

Well, no offense Brendan, but MJ isn't exactly thrilled with your friends, either!

Seriously though, Mary Jane's adventures as a runway model would make for some interesting stories, especially in the model-crazed '90s. However, if she were to pal around with Patsy Walker, she'd have to be hanging out on the other side of the veil—poor Patsy said goodbye to the land of the living in the late, lamented HELLSTORM series!

Dear Spider's Web,

I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4. I must say that I worry about something. Not to sound like a soap opera or anything, but are you planning on having Peter and Jill Stacy link up? I once heard that Mary Jane is going to break up with Peter. If that's the case, Peter and she should get a divorce.

As for bringing back Aunt May, I think it's great. A lot of people think she should've remained dead, but not me. Aunt May is Peter's security blanket. She's also there to remind us of why Peter is Spider-Man in the first place. She also reminds us that, although he is a superhero, Peter is still human, too.

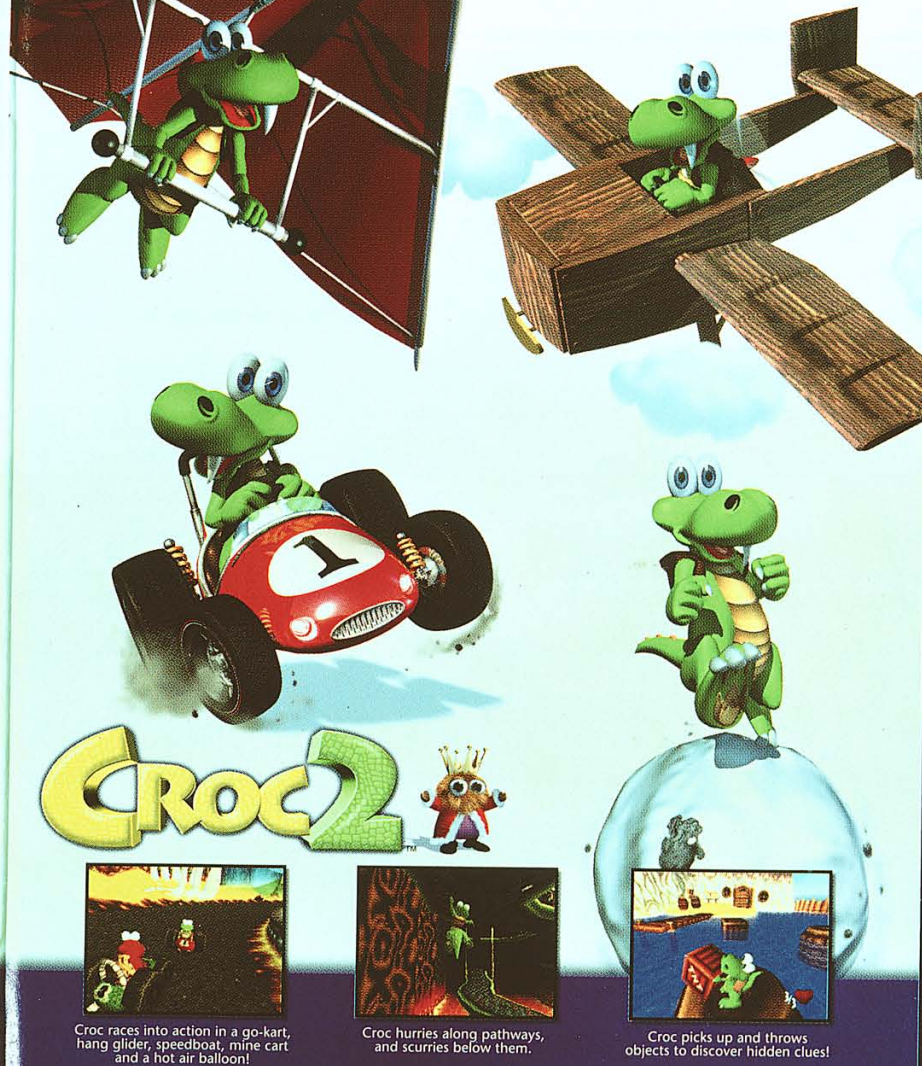
Jeff Esert
Mississauga, Ontario
CANADA

No, Jeff, we aren't planning on having Peter and Jill Stacy "link up." If they do anything like that it will be their decision, free from our influence.

NEXT ISSUE:

PETER IS SHAKEN AS HE LEARNS THAT THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT FOR THE EXPERIMENT WHICH GAVE HIM HIS POWERS ARE BEING HUNTED DOWN AND KILLED! SPIDEY SHOULD GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY BUT HE'S GOT HIS HANDS FULL WITH THE AMPED UP SCORPION! BE IN HERE IN FOUR SHORT ONES, AS HOWARD MACKIE, JOHNNY BYRNE AND SCOTT HANNA WILL GIVE YOU THE SHOCK OF YOUR LIFE. RALF, TRY AS HE MIGHT, CAN ONLY MUSTER STATIC ELECTRICITY.

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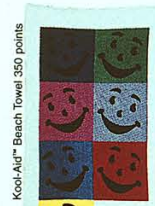


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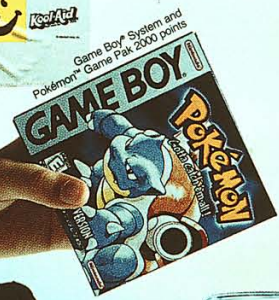
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